

HONORING CHIEF JUDGE WILLIAM WALTER WILKINS, Jr.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the years of dedicated service that William Walter Wilkins, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, has given to the Federal judiciary. Hailing from my hometown of Greenville, SC, his contributions to South Carolina and our Nation are immeasurable.

Chief Judge Wilkins began his public service in 1967 as an officer in the U.S. Army, eventually earning the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. Upon his honorable discharge from the Army, Chief Judge Wilkins worked as a law clerk for the Honorable Clement F. Haynsworth, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals Fourth Circuit until 1970, then going on to become a legal assistant for the late Senator Strom Thurmond. And Senator Thurmond got it exactly right when he called Chief Judge Wilkins "a man of character and unquestionable integrity."

While in private practice, Chief Judge Wilkins was elected as the first Republican Solicitor for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit since Reconstruction, a post that showcased his extensive knowledge and mastery of the legal profession.

In 1981, newly elected President Ronald Reagan used his first Presidential appointment to nominate Chief Judge Wilkins to the position of the U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina. Chief Judge Wilkins was confirmed by this body on July 20, 1981 and received his commission on July 22, 1981.

In 1985, President Reagan appointed Chief Judge Wilkins to be the first Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission, where he was given the task of creating guidelines for the sentencing of Federal defendants. He served in this capacity until 1994. During that time, he was also appointed to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he has served as Chief Judge since 2003.

Chief Judge Wilkins is a nationally recognized jurist and is known for this scholarship, sharp wit, and unyielding allegiance to the rule of law. Not only is the State of South Carolina honored to be the home of a man of his integrity, but the United States is privileged to have such a distinguished jurist defending our American legal system.

I commend Chief Judge Wilkins for his 25 years of public service to the United States.

HONORING RANDE YEAGER

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Rande Yeager, a constituent of mine, on completing a year as president of the American Land Title Association, ALTA. He ably represented the land title industry at a time when the value and public policy purposes of

title insurance and the maintenance of land records came under challenge.

His leadership of ALTA over this past year was a natural extension of his corporate experience. As president of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company, one of the leading title underwriters in this country and my State of Minnesota, Rande has experience being both a leader and a spokesperson for a large company.

As ALTA president, Rande made numerous trips to State conventions across the country to get to know his colleagues better, hear their concerns for their businesses and the industry, and came back ready to find out how ALTA could help. He also came to Washington to promote the importance of title insurance and land record maintenance.

ALTA has been well served by Rande's leadership. I congratulate him on his year as president and best wishes on his future endeavors.

MIDDLE GEORGIA BUCKS SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I have submitted a resolution to congratulate the 2006 Middle Georgia Bucks Senior Boys Basketball Team of Macon, GA, for their winning season. Not only did they win the 2006 Amateur Athletic Union National Championship, AAU, they won the 2006 State of Georgia AAU Championship and the 2006 Hoosier Showcase in Indianapolis, IN, as well. The Bucks finished the season with an undefeated record of 27 wins and 0 losses. On August 1, they claimed their national victory by defeating the North Carolina Gators by a score of 97 to 75.

This resolution recognizes and commends the hard work, tenacity, and steadfast commitment to excellence of the members, parents, coaches, and managers of the Middle Georgia Bucks. It also commends the Amateur Athletic Union for continuing the tradition of fostering the development of sportsmanship, discipline, and self-assurance in young adults. This talented team, managed by Alfonza Hall and coached by Melvin Flowers, Chris Cromartie, and Al Hagan, has brought great pride to the State of Georgia and the Middle Georgia community, where the fans have shown unwavering enthusiasm, support, and admiration for the players and coaches.

Mr. President, I would like to recognize the players individually for their accomplishment: Lehmon Colbert; LaShun Watson; Anthony Miller; Terrell "Sput" Dunham; Keith Ramsey; Giles Mack; Antonio Steele; Tay Waller; Jarvis Ogletree; Rashad Faust; Sean LeGree; Jermaine Sparks; Josh Williams; Akila Carter; and Jeremiah Crutcher. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of these players and their families, and to all involved in the organization. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JARED JENSEN

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I honor the service and sacrifice of Officer Jared Jensen.

My wife Joan and I were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Officer Jared Jensen while in the line of duty.

It takes a person of great courage to become an officer of the law. It takes a strong, hardworking, and considerate individual. It takes a special someone who is willing to pay the ultimate price in protecting the safety of others.

Officer Jared Jensen was just this person. He served the Colorado Springs Police Department with honor and valor for more than 3 years. Officer Jared Jensen was a dedicated police officer who had a passion for upholding the law.

Officer Jared Jensen was a husband, a brother, and a son. He is survived by his wife Natalie, a brother, who also serves the Colorado Springs Police Department, and his loving parents. Among his many hobbies and interests, Officer Jared Jensen was an avid NASCAR racing fan and golfer. Throughout his life, Jared's caring heart was evident in his devotion to family and friends, his love of animals, and his loyalty to his fellow officers with whom he served.

The city of Colorado Springs has lost a valuable member of its community, and we are all forever grateful for Officer Jared Jensen's service and dedication to the safety and well-being of others. His service to the city of Colorado Springs is highly commendable, and his contributions will be remembered.

On October 6, 2006, the Police Cross and Medal of Valor will be presented to Officer Jared Jensen, posthumously, and given to his widow Natalie at the 21st Annual Medal of Valor Award Ceremony in Colorado Springs, Colorado. These awards represent his extraordinary heroism and honorable service to the Colorado Springs Police Department.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Officer Jared Jensen. May his bravery and unwavering sense of duty serve as a role model for the future generation of law officers. •

COMMENDING FORT PECK RESERVATION AND FEDERAL HIGHWAYS ADMINISTRATION

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I want to take this moment to call the Senate's attention to a historic agreement that was signed today between the Federal Highways Administration and the Assiniboine & Sioux tribes at the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana.

Today, Fort Peck entered into an agreement with FHWA to directly manage highway funds for the reservation, allowing increased focus on the local needs of tribal members. Fort